

1. STATE **Maryland**  
 COUNTY **Baltimore**  
 TOWN **Lutherville** VICINITY  
 STREET NO. **1603 Franke Avenue**

ORIGINAL OWNER **Dr. John Beck**  
 ORIGINAL USE **residence**  
 PRESENT OWNER **Mrs. George Gelston**  
 PRESENT USE **residence**

WALL CONSTRUCTION **frame, stuccoed (?)**  
 NO. OF STORIES **2½**

# HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY

## 2. NAME

DATE OR PERIOD **1907**  
 STYLE **Georgian Revival**  
 ARCHITECT  
 BUILDER **Dr. Beck**

## 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

## 4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

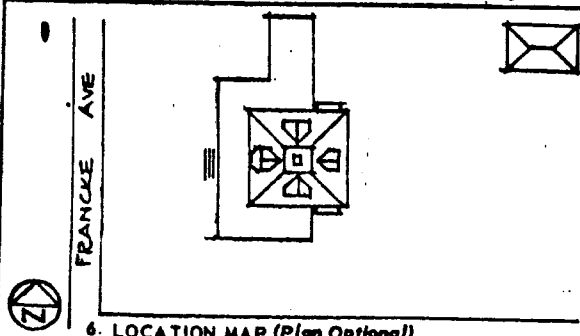
OPEN TO PUBLIC **NO**

In general proportions, square and symmetrical, this house is an elegant example of its style which employed authentic Georgian details very loosely. At the top of the hipped roof, which gently splays at wide overhanging eaves carried on large, thin rafter end/modillions, is set a widow's walk, which like the main balcony railing, has square newels with moulded caps each with a ball finial. The central front facade is punctuated at the roof with a gabled dormer having an open pediment which receives the arch of a Palladian window motif. Other dormers at the side elevations have paired windows set under a pedimented gable. The Palladian dormer, though, has a semi-octagonal balcony, which has typical railing, set on the projecting, three sided bay window of the second floor. The bay window is carried on the roof of the Tuscan columned veranda and superb porte cochere. Below the porch floor level the classically correct columns are supported on pedestals.

The double glazed doors with their sidelights and transom as well as the bay window above are flanked by pairs of windows which typically have three long lights in the upper sash and one light in the lower sash.

The side elevations are somewhat less symmetrical with two or three bays and projecting bay windows.

Through the porte cochere at the end of the drive a two door garage-carriage shed, stuccoed like the main house, has a hipped roof with a hipped roof dormer and is two bays deep. The dormer sash

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE **Endangered**

## 6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Page)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Rodd L. Wheaton

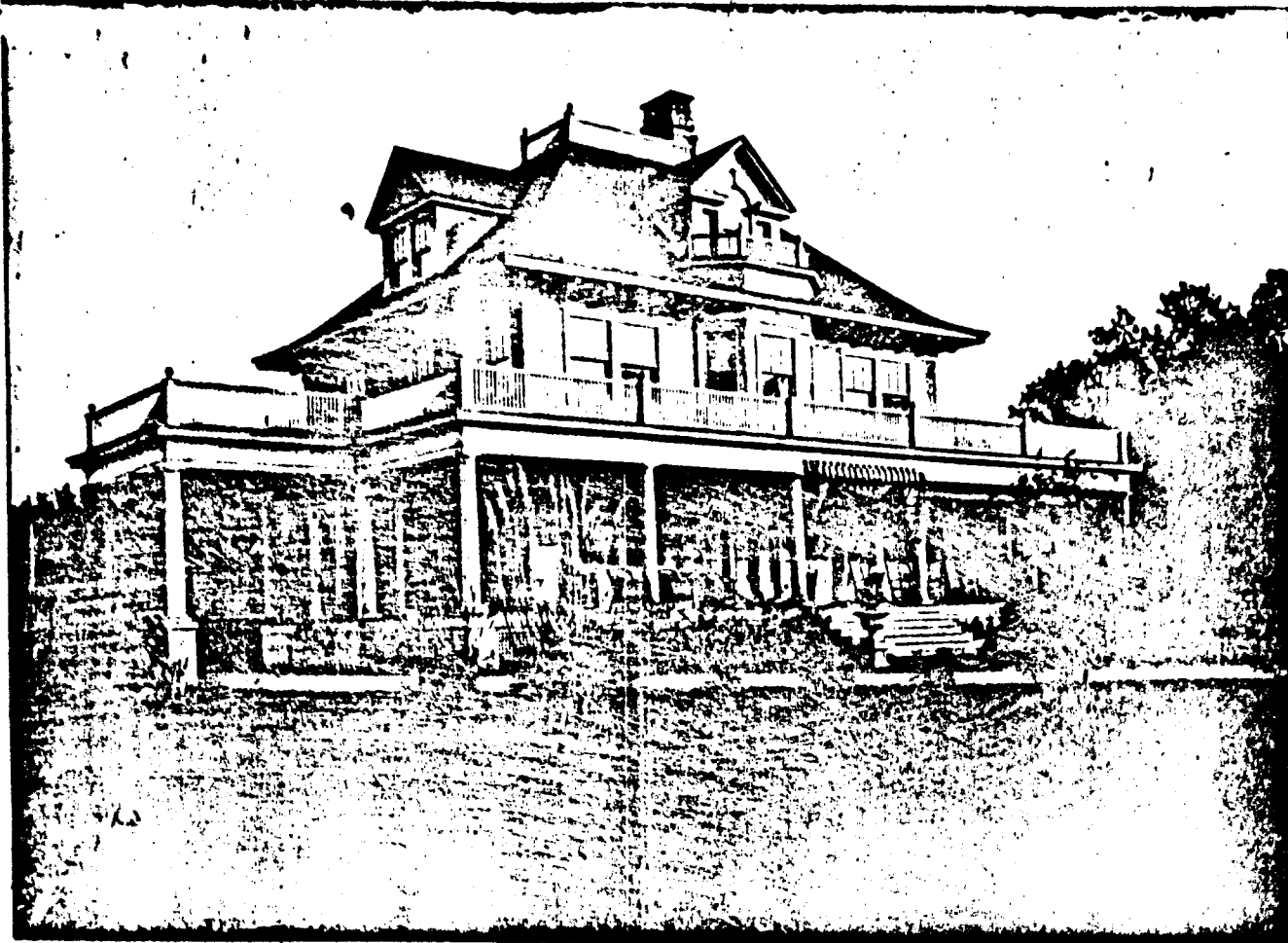
Nov. 1971



1603 Franke Avenue

match that of the main house. The double hung doors of each opening are paneled.

Dr. Beck, a pharmacist and president of the Calvert Drug Company in Baltimore, built for himself this fine house that today presents a nearly intact view of affluent Lutherville at the turn of the century.



An early view, circa 1915.